

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 5, 9, and 10 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

### **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1, 5, 9, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamishiro Kazuhiro (JP 2000-243254) in view of Morii et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0109456). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 9 are amended to recite that the banks "have a tapered shape such that a width of the banks decreases as a height of the banks increase." Support for this amendment may be found in paragraph [0066]. No new matter is added.

Neither Kazuhiro nor Morii teach or suggest banks having a tapered shape such that a width of the banks decreases as a height of the banks increase. In contrast, both Kazuhiro and Morii teach banks having equal widths as the height of the banks increases. Because this feature is not taught by either reference, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1, 9, and their corresponding dependent claims would not have been obvious.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

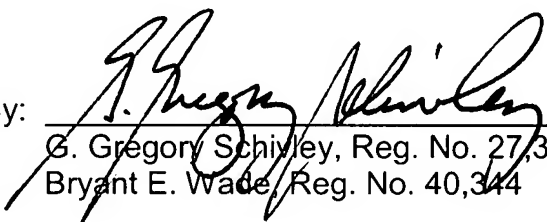
## CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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